

19. (original) The integrated circuit incorporating an Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) protection device according to claim 12, wherein said material resistant to thermo-mechanical expansion is composed primarily of carbon (C).

20. (original) The integrated circuit incorporating an Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) protection device according to claim 12, wherein said material resistant to thermo-mechanical expansion is composed primarily of an alloy of aluminum (Al) and TiN.

21. (original) The integrated circuit incorporating an Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) protection device according to claim 17, wherein the first connector is composed of Al, Cu or an alloy of Al and Cu.

Claims 22-39 canceled.

REMARKS

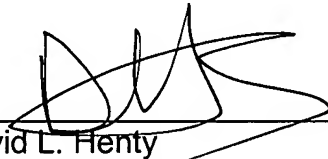
This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action of March 17, 2005. Claims 1-11 and 22-39 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 12-21 are pending in this application. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 12-21. To expedite prosecution Applicants have canceled the rejected claims 1-11 and 22-39. However, Applicants do not acquiesce in the prior art rejections and reserve the right to pursue claims of the same or similar scope as the canceled claims in one or more continuation applications.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. It is requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney if it appears that any impediment remains to allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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